

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 /054 W

----- 107912

R 261012Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2748

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0437

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SO

SUBJECT: SIAD'S INTERNAL PROBLEMS

REF: MOGADISCIO 422

1. POLITICAL SITUATION IN MOGADISCIO REMAINS TROUBLED AND MORE OBSCURE THAN EVER. WE HAVE RECEIVED AUTHORITATIVE REPORTS THAT SIAD HAS NOW ARRESTED MOHAMED ADEN SHEIKH, EX-SECSTATE FOR CULTURE AND HIGHER EDUCATION, AND CURRENT ADVISOR TO POL. COMMITTEE. MOHAMED WEIRAH, EX-MINFINANCE AND CURRENT ADVISOR TO ECON. COMMITTEE HAS NOW BEEN MOVED FROM HOUSE DETENTION TO FORMAL ARREST, ALONG WITH MOHAMED ADEN. BOTH MEN REPRESENT EXTREME LEFTIST WING IN GSDR, ARE CONSIDERED MARXISTS AND ARE ADAMENTLY OPPOSED TO ANY CONCESSIONS TO ARAB STATES. ARRESTS TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO GUEURY KIDNAPPING.

2. OTHERS RECENTLY ARRESTED REPORTEDLY INCLUDE MEGAG SAMANTAR AND MOHAMED WARSAMA.

3. ANTI-SIAD TRACTS AND WALL SCRAWLINGS CONTINUE TO APPEAR. SOME TRACTS HAVE AGAIN APPEARED WITHIN ARMY CAMP WHERE SIAD HOUSED.

4. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LEARN ANYTHING FURTHER REGARDING GEN. SAMANTAR WE UNDERSTAND HE IS IN MIL HOSPITAL AND IS CONSIDERED  
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ILL. BEYOND THAT, WE HAVE NOTHING TO ADD WHICH MIGHT CLARIFY HIS

SITUATION OR HIS ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN ANTI-SIAD ACTIVITIES.  
SEVERAL SRC MEMBERS ALSO ARE REPORTED ILL AND RESTING AT HOME,  
INCLUDING VP CULMIE.

5. ONE QUESTION WHICH NO ONE SEEMS PREPARED TO CONVINCINGLY  
ANSWER IS EXTENT OF SIAD FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GUEURY KIDNAPPING BY  
SOMALI COAST LIBERATION FRONT. ONE FAIRLY RELIABLE OBSERVER  
HERE SAYS SIAD WAS UNAWARE OF FRONT'S PLANS TOTCIDNAP GUEURY  
AND FURIOUS WHEN HE LEARNED OF IT, BELIEVING THAT IT WAS PART OF  
LARGER PLAN COOKED UP BY HIS OPPONENTS TO SHOW PUBLIC ORDER  
BREAKING DOWN IN MOGADISCIO AND SIAD NO LONGER IN CONTROL. OTHERS  
SUGGEST THAT, SINCE NOTHING OCCURS IN MOGADISCIO WITHOUT SIAD'S  
CONSENT, THIS WAS CARED HE HAD UP HIS SLEEVE FOR SOME TIME TO USE  
AT APPROPRIATE TIME TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE SITUATION IN DJIBOUTI  
AND HE PLAYED AT THIS MOMENT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM HIS OWN  
INTERNAL PROBLEMS.

6. WE HAVE NO EASY ANSWERS, EITHER FOR GUEURY KIDNAPPING OR  
ANY OTHER OF THESE INTERNAL INTRIGUES NOW BEING PLAYED OUT. WE  
DO KNOW THAT OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS, SIAD'S RECORD IN CONTROLLING  
LOCALLY-BASED SOMALI IRREDENTISTS HAS BEEN GOOD, AS EVIDENCED  
BY HIS DECISIVENESS IN HANDLING THE OGADEN TRIBESMAN (MOGADISCIO  
0388). OVER THIS SAME PERIOD, HE HAS FOCUSED VIRTUALLY ALL HIS  
ENERGIES AND THOSE OF THE PEOPLE IN BUILDING SOCIALIST NATION IN  
SOMALIA UNDER SOVIET TUTELAGE AND HAS EFFECTIVELY CONTAINED ANY  
POLITICAL OR TRIBAL GROUP WHICH ATTEMPTED DIVERT SOMALIA'S ATTENTION  
OR ITS ENERGIES FROM THESE ESSENTIALLY CONSTRUCTIVE -- AND IN HIS  
VIEW, ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY -- SOCIALIST TASKS. SIAD'S SOCIALISM, AS  
RADICAL OR PRIMITIVE AS IT MIGHT SEEM FROM OUTSIDE, HAS GIVEN UNITY  
AND COHERENCE TO HIS REGIME AND HAS MINIMIZED AT SAME TIME POLITICAL  
NEED TO USE IRREDENTISM AS TOOL OF NATIONAL UNITY. HE HAS BEEN  
UNEQUIVOCAL IN FACING DOWN EVERY CHALLENGE TO THESE SOCIALIST GOALS,  
INCLUDING FINANCIAL TEMPTATIONS OFFERED BY ARAB LEAGUE, MORAL  
CHALLENGE REPRESENTED BY SOMALI SHEIKHS, OR TERRITORIAL TROUBLE-  
MAKING POSSIBILITIES OFFERED BY OGADEN TRIBES. IF THAT SOCIALIST  
UNITY NOW BREAKING DOWN, THEN IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHAT IS  
IN STORE FOR SIAD OR FOR SOMALIA.

7. SONNA REPORTED MARCH 26 THAT SIAD WILL LEAVE MOGADISCIO  
THIS MORNING TO ATTEND FAISEL FUNERAL CEREMONIES IN RIYAD.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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